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THE LARGEST MUSICAL WORK EVER PRINTED
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The above Work, which contains the greatest variety of vocal Music
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LONDON, December 4. 1782.

FRAILTIES OF FASHION.

A NOVEL.

CONTAINING,

Amongst a great variety of curious Historiettes,
 The Secret Memoirs of MADAME D'ÉON, Amours of COUNT
 D'ARTOIS, and of many other distinguished Characters in the Po-
 lite World.

London—Printed for and sold by G. LISTER, No. 46. Old Bailey;
 and all other booksellers in Great Britain.

MILLS THOMAS'S ROYAL CALEDONIAN HOTEL,

No. 3. Prince's Street, New Town,
 EDINBURGH.

IS now opened on a plan of economy, as every thing is studied to ren-
 der the House both convenient and reasonable. Also, elegance, sim-
 plicity, and refined taste, have not been wanting in new-furnishing the
 Hotel, in order to render every accommodation for Nobility and Gentry.

Drawing rooms, 3s. per night. Elegant camp ogee tent-bed
 Dining parlours, 3s. per do. rooms, 2s. per night.
 Canopy crimson bed-rooms, with Do. do. do. 2s. per night.
 tent-beds for valets off, 3s. Servants bed-rooms, 1s. per do.
 Chintz bed-rooms, 3s. Servants halls, 6s. per week.
 And, to save unnecessary expenses, Gentlemen may be furnished with
 breakfasts, dinners, and suppers, in their own chambers.
 There is also a new regulation of economy in the Hotel, viz. the im-
 proved and modernized Bill of Fare, with the price of each dish annex-
 ed, from 2d. to 7s. 6d. per dish.

To which will be added,
 Best Old Port Wine, 2s. 3d. per bottle,
 Claret, at 4s. 6d. per bottle.

As the proprietor is out of the city's impol, therefore the public will
 have the opportunity to drink the best of wines free of the town's cess.
 N. B. MILLS THOMAS very respectfully embraces this public oppor-
 tunity to acquaint the public in general, that he is possessed of

GOVERNMENT SECURITY.

as agent, factor, and seller on commission, of any estate, goods, or effects
 whatsoever; and that he has now for sale a very large quantity of
 GLASS WARE, AND STAFFORDSHIRE QUEEN'S WARE,
 Only to be sold at the lowest prices in town, for ready money, or good
 bills at short dates.

Printed Cottons, Calicoes, and Blankets.

JUST come to hand from England, and to be sold on commission by
 JOSEPH LAGHLAN, at his shop north side of the Lawn-market,
 for ready money only, a large assortment of PRINTED COTTONS
 and CALICOES, various prices.

BLANKETS, from 8s. 6d. to a Guinea a pair.
 The printed cottons and calicoes are of the best qualities and newest
 patterns; and as the persons concerned in this branch of business pro-
 pose to carry it on to a large extent, a regular assortment will be kept.
 Dealers in that article may therefore depend on being always well ser-
 ved at such prices as will induce to purchase.

No less than a piece will be sold.

The Blankets will be sold by the pair, or larger quantity.

Also, at said shop continue to be sold,

Best old Jamaica Rum, 13s. per gallon.

Ditto, ditto, ditto, 12s. 6d. per gallon.

Cognac Brandy, 11s. to 13s. per gallon.

Gin, 8s. per gallon.

Feintish Aquavitz, 2s. 8d. per pint.

Good ditto, 2s. 4d. ditto.

Orders punctually answered.

Boarding-School for Young Ladies,

NEW TOWN, EDINBURGH.

MRS and MISS MARY JACKSON propose opening a Boarding
 School for Young Ladies, January 7. 1783. The different branches
 of polite education will be taught; and boarding will be at the usual
 terms in this city.

They beg leave to mention, that they are natives of London, where
 they have been educated, and also in France. They have since resided
 as Governesses in families of rank and fortune in England; and have al-
 so had the honour to educate young ladies of the first families in this
 country; they therefore flatter themselves, it will be unnecessary to add
 more, than that those who honour them with the important charge,
 may rely on their utmost care to discharge it with fidelity and success.

Letters addressed to them, at their house, west end of Prince's-street,
 New Town, will be received with respectful attention.

MR JOHN RAE, Surgeon and Dentist, Mem-
 ber of the Royal College of Surgeons, wishes to testify his
 gratitude to the Public who have so remarkably patronized his plan of
 practice in this city. He begs leave to assure his employers, that every
 attention on his part shall be paid to secure the continuation of the pub-
 lic favour. Mr RAE has just got home a large collection of the very
 best materials for the artificial branch of his business, which will enable
 him to serve the Public punctually, and on moderate terms:

Families attended by the year, if desired.

N. B. Mr RAE continues to give his assistance to servants and poor
 people gratis, every morning, at his house, Calfehill, where every op-
 eration respecting the teeth is performed.

His Tincture and Powder for the Teeth and Gums to be had at Mr
 Johnston's shop, front of the Exchange.

By order of
 COLONEL, LIEUTENANT COLONEL, and GENTLEMEN

EDINBURGH DEFENSIVE BAND,

On WEDNESDAY, the 19 of December, in the

ASSEMBLY HALL

For the Benefit of the MUSIC belonging to the

Edinburgh Defensive Band,

Will be formed,

A CONCERT.

ACT I.

OVERTURE VANMALDE, in which is introduced the fa-
 vourite Air, *The Highland Lads.*

SONG—Signora CORRI.

SOLO on the German Flute—Mr MUSCHET

SCOTS SONG—Mr PUPPO.

ACT II.

SOLO VIOLINCELLO—Mr SCHETKY

SONG, "The Soldier's Farewell to War." Signora CORRI.

BORGIES SOLO CONCERTO VIOLIN—Mr REINAGLE.

With the favourite RONDEAU.

ACT III.

SONG—Signora CORRI, *Over that Soldier's Life!*

The favourite Glee, *How much I owe to you!*

HANDEL'S GRAND CORONATION ANTHEM,

With Kettle Drums and Trumpets.

After the CONCERT there will be

A BALL.

To begin at half an hour past six o'clock in the evening.

TICKETS, price Three Shillings, to be had at Mr COULTER'S, Hosier,
 at the Cross, and at the Music Shops.

There is just arrived by the last ships from London,

A Very neat assortment of Wilton Carpets,
 Printed and Checked Bed Curtains, Glazies, Blankets, &c.
 which are assigned to Alexander Simpson, foot of the Pleatance, Ed-
 inburgh, who is now selling them off greatly below the London prices.
 N. B. The Goods are all of the newest patterns, and the carpets
 and blankets made up in the most elegant manner.

Likewise, at same place may be had, Best Superfine Cloths, as cheap
 as at any sale-shop in town. Also, Suits of Clothes made in the gen-
 teel manner, on the shortest notice.

INN AT HAMILTON.

To be LET, and entered to at Whitfriday first

THAT well-frequented INN in the town of Hamilton, with all the
 offices and back-grounds, as last possessed by the deceased Wil-
 liam Burns, the proprietor.

For particulars apply to James Burns at Hamilton, or Archibald Burns
 writer, at Mr James Forrest's writer to the signet.

There is also for sale, a very neat POST CHAISE.

FOR THE CALEDONIAN MERCURY.

'TO THE MOB OF SCOTLAND.

My Dear Countrymen,
 BY the Mob, I don't mean the idle, drunken, and disorder-
 ly persons, who stroll about the country in parties, robb-
 ing, eating, and drinking at free cost; but the industrious
 poor, who are often infected by such company, and, upon the
 first appearance of the high prices of grain, are hurried into
 the unwarrantable violence, to supply their present wants at a
 cheap rate.

It is the industrious manufacturers, labourers, and mecha-
 nics of this country, whom I mean to address, and to show
 them, that, by rioting, things must grow worse instead of bet-
 ter; and that, by so doing, they only aggravate the evil they
 wish to obviate.

I am sorry to say, that I never saw a greater appearance of
 scarcity of provisions than at present, owing to no human ne-
 glect; the farmer has been equally industrious as formerly;
 but there are few alive who ever saw so bare and backward a
 season as the present, by which means the crop is not only more
 scanty than usual, but, from the unripeness of the grain, it is e-
 ven more scanty than it appears to be. What makes things
 still worse is, that many of the places from whence we used to
 be supplied with grain, are in the same melancholy situation
 with ourselves, while our navigation is much impeded by
 our numerous enemies: It will, therefore, require every exer-
 tion and assistance from the Legislature to keep the prices with-
 in any reasonable bounds, although no obstructions are thrown
 in the way by those who wish to fish in troubled waters. I
 have always observed, that it is not the most necessitous who
 are most disposed to riot. The several Mobs in England, some
 years ago, upon a similar occasion, were proofs of this. In
 the west of England, where these Mobs were more frequent
 than in any other part, the rioters consisted chiefly of manufac-
 turers, who instigated a few labourers to join them. In the
 east part of England, the rioters were chiefly made up of la-
 bourers, and few manufacturers. Upon enquiry it was found,
 that where the rioters were chiefly manufacturers, they earned
 from nine to eleven shillings per week, and the labourers only
 from five to six shillings. On the contrary, in the east, where
 the rioters were composed chiefly of labourers, they earned
 eight shillings per week, and the manufacturer only six shillings
 and sixpence; a proof that it is not the least wealthy, but the
 least industrious, who compose such riots.

I shall now endeavour to show you, that grain is a commo-
 dity which, even in times of plenty, is never hoarded up in
 this country, though by the Mob, and the more ignorant part
 of mankind, this is believed beyond a doubt. It is a commo-
 dity in the hands of too many people, not only in the same
 country, but in different countries. There are no granaries,
 where either the farmer or corn-merchant could lodge their
 grain. By keeping, it often heats and spoils, is consumed by
 vermin, and inleaks in the measure; therefore it is not the in-
 terest of the holder to keep it long in his possession, even al-
 though the prices are low. At the same time, I am of opi-
 nion, that if grain could be hoarded up when very plenty, it
 would be a real advantage to the country, in securing it from
 the evils which threaten it this very year. In times of real
 scarcity, the first thing that the Mob wishes to believe is, that
 the scarcity is owing to the farmers keeping up their grain,
 that they may have a better pretence to use violence in order

to help themselves. But in such years, with all the disadvan-
 tages of keeping grain, none but a madman would think of
 hoarding it up, when the prices are so much higher than usual;
 for whenever the prices are high in this island, you may
 depend upon it there is a scarcity. If this is the case, there
 are but two ways of remedying it—by consuming less, or im-
 porting more into the country. But Mobs obstruct both of
 these measures; for, by helping yourselves, much of the small
 quantity must be lost and destroyed. And who will hazard
 the bringing a fresh supply into a country, where the importer
 is not certain but his whole cargo may be taken from him?
 We should therefore learn to husband well the little we have
 upon all such occasions.

When the provisions of a ship are like to run short, the ship's
 company are put upon short allowance. Were they mad en-
 ough, in such a situation, to insist upon their full allowance,
 the whole crew might perish in a very short time. But they
 have found, from experience, that it is better to submit to a
 temporary hardship, than to risk perishing for want.

The same method we should follow, with regard to the ma-
 nagement of grain in times of real scarcity. But if the Mob
 shall think otherwise, and, in a riotous manner, go from barn-
 yard to barn-yard, and carry destruction along with them, it
 must of course happen, that the provisions which, if well man-
 aged, might have served the industrious poor for eight months,
 are consumed in four, at the end of which the evil must be en-
 creased.

By so doing, you prevent any private merchant from bring-
 ing you a fresh supply from parts of the country, or from other
 countries, where there is greater plenty; nay, by so doing,
 you even prevent the legislative power, and every good Chris-
 tian, from giving you any assistance. Every body must than
 you as they would a mad dog; and you may be distressed in
 the neighbourhood of plenty.

If the same Mob were to possess themselves of the several ave-
 nues leading to the city of Edinburgh, and destroy, and sell at
 their own price, every ox or sheep which the butchers were
 bringing to supply it, in a very short time the inhabitants would
 be distressed for the want of butcher meat, although there was
 great plenty at Dalkeith, Haddington, and places adjacent.

It is the same with regard to grain. If the mob uses vio-
 lence in helping themselves in times of scarcity, instead of en-
 couraging every body to bring to market what grain they have,
 or what they can get, the inhabitants of such a place may be
 much distressed, while those within a dozen of miles may be
 well supplied. I know this to be the case in some towns in
 Scotland, where rioting is too frequent; where many of the
 Gentlemen convert their grain into money, and where others
 are averse to raise grain, for fear of these mobs. But there is a-
 nother great inconvenience which attends the violent proceed-
 ings of a lawless mob, that must greatly aggravate the evil, which
 is, that if you thus destroy and carry off, at your own price,
 what grain the industrious farmer has raised for the payment of
 his rent, and the maintenance of his family, you either make
 him unwilling to sow the next year, or render him incapable of so doing.

Therefore it may be expected, that the following year there may
 be still a greater scarcity, unless great quantities of grain are im-
 ported from foreign countries, which is always ruinous to the
 country into which it is imported, and never can be done at the
 same easy rate; no manufactures of any kind can thrive in that
 kingdom; it is therefore an expedient which should only be
 practised in times of real scarcity, as at present.

If the rioters were not in a constant state of intoxication,
 they never could act so diametrically opposite to their own in-
 terest; and with what horror must they reflect (when they re-
 turn to their senses) upon the many crimes and cruelties they
 have been obliged to commit upon innocent persons, who never
 injured them? How many instances have we, even amongst the
 most dissolute of mankind, of men who have committed murder,
 or some atrocious crime, from provocation, or other mo-
 tives, who have found themselves so unhappy during the rest of
 their lives, that the only relief they could think of was by deli-
 vering themselves up to justice, and confessing a crime before
 undiscovered, and suffering a punishment due by the laws of
 their country? But how much more unhappy must these rioters
 be, when they reflect upon the many harmless and industri-
 ous families they have reduced, from a state of wealth, to that
 of beggars; and the number of women, differently circumstan-
 ced, whom they have frightened and bereft of their senses for
 life? If they did but pause, and reflect upon the light in which
 these crimes will be viewed by the all-wise and omnipotent
 Judge, from whom no crimes can be concealed, they must stop
 short; did they but consider how much reason they have to fear,
 that they will receive this awful sentence, *Depart from me, ye
 cursed, into everlasting fire, for your past works have not been
 works of mercy.* I have still much more to say to you upon
 the same subject, which I shall reserve for another letter.

PRICES OF CORN AT CORN EXCHANGE, Dec. 9.

Wheat, 38 s. a 55 s.	Boiling ditto, 33 s.
Fine ditto, ditto.	Tick Beans, 20 s. a 34 s.
Barley, 24 s. a 35 s.	Small ditto, 38 s.
Rye, 20 s. a 33 s.	Tares, 20 s. a 25 s.
Oats, 16 s. a 27 s.	Per Sack.
Pale Malt, 39 s. a 45 s.	Fine Flour, 45 s.
Grey Pease, 33 s.	Second Sort, 45 s.
White ditto, —	Rape Seed, 22 l. per last.

PRICE OF STOCKS, Dec. 12.

Bank Stock, —	Ditto New Ann. —
4 per cent. Ann. 1777, 78, a 77	Ditto 1781, —
a 78.	India Stock, —
3 per cent. 606. Int. 64, a 74	3 per cent. Ann. —
64 opening.	India Bonds, —
3 per cent. red. 63, a 64.	Exch. Bills, 17 a 18 diff.
3 per cent. 1726, Int.	Navy Bills, 12, a 13 diff.
Long Ann. shut.	Lot. Tick, 19 l. 10 s. n. n. n.
Short Ann. 1778, shut.	3 per cent. Scrip. 65.
South Sea Stock, —	Omanum, —
3 per cent. Old Ann. —	



From the London Papers, Dec. 12.

L O N D O N.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Wednesday Dec. 11.

LORD LUDLOW reported, that his Majesty had been waited on with their Address of the day before, and that he would give directions as desired.

Ordered, That no petitions for private bills be received after the 6th of February.

Read a first time the Scotch bankrupts bill, with several reports, petitions, and other matters of a private nature.

General Conway then rose, and said he should to day have made a motion for the thanks of the House to General Elliott, for his gallant conduct, but that he conceived there would be some discussion on the subject which might retard it; he would therefore defer it till the morrow.

The order of the day, for considering the supplies, being next called for, a motion was about to be made for the Speaker to quit the Chair, when

Mr Fox called upon Ministers to inform the House, whether any accident had happened to prevent the conclusion of the treaty of peace? The Secretary of State, in his letter to the Lord Mayor, had said, that, by the 5th of December, he should be able to say whether we should have war or peace. The 5th of December was now come, but he had not given this important information. An explanation at least, if not an apology, was due to the House and the nation by the Secretary, for having written such a letter, or for not having written a letter on the 5th of December, to inform the Public, why he could not then perform his promises. He wished that the provisional treaty with America were laid upon the table, being convinced, that if it was final, such as he hoped it was, the publication of it could not be attended with any bad consequences. The Ministers of France, Spain, Holland, the Commissioners of Congress, and our own Ministers, were all acquainted with it; where then could be the danger of communicating to Parliament what was known to all our enemies? It was the more necessary that Parliament should see this treaty; for though in that House it had been most satisfactorily explained, he understood that in another place, and by one of his Majesty's Ministers, it had been explained very differently indeed; it being said by him, not to be conclusive, and that the offered independence might be hereafter revoked.

Mr Secretary Townshend said he would make no apology, till the House should have told him that he had done wrong in writing the letter. He had acted on that occasion according to the dictates of his judgment; he knew that as the nature of the negotiation was known to so many persons, on account of the great number of enemies we were treating with, it was also necessary, in his opinion, that he should put the public on their guard, against the practices of stock-jobbers; not that he feared that the persons of high rank, birth, character, and reputation, of other countries, with whom we were treating, were not above the means of gaming in our funds; but when a secret was known to so many, it is probable that some persons might get at the knowledge of it, who would prefer interest to honour and reputation.

Governor Johnstone wished the Secretary to explain himself further; he had said nothing of the provisional treaty. If it was final, why was it not immediately laid before Parliament? France, Spain, Holland, and America, knew every title of it; but the Commons of Great Britain, whose honour and welfare were at stake, were not permitted to see what all their enemies had already read. Under the act of Parliament, introduced last session by the late Attorney-General, nothing like a power was given to the Crown to declare America independent. The executive power indeed to treat with power to grant independence. If then independence was granted under that act, that independence had been surreptitiously obtained. He asked why the sense of the nation, through the medium of the House, had not been taken by a direct question. Whether the dismemberment of the empire was advisable? He should think that man wicked, who, at such a time as this, would endeavour to throw difficulties in the way of Ministers; but as he could not conceive that calling for a treaty already finally concluded, and which was known to all the belligerent powers, could be productive of any embarrassment, he was determined to move, on some other day, that the provisional treaty be laid upon the table.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer argued against the production of the treaty; but declared that the independence of America was irrevocably granted; that the American war was dead, to rise no more; and this was a declaration to which he would ever adhere.

Mr Burke wished for the production of the treaty; and the more as it was so variously interpreted. In one place, and by one set of his Majesty's Ministers, the independence was said to be unconditional and irrevocable; by another, in another place, it was declared to be conditional and revocable. Let the treaty then, said he, in the name of God, be produced, and speak for itself. The independence of America is a subject on which there are three opinions in this House; some Gentlemen are for bringing back the colonies to the obedience of the mother-country; some are for making independence the price of peace; while others, of whom he himself was one, were for granting independence without any condition whatever. He wished, therefore, that the treaty might be produced, that the sense of the House might be taken on these different opinions.

Mr Powney expressed himself greatly afflicted at finding that reports prevailed of divisions in the Cabinet; however, from what he had heard since the opening of Parliament from three Ministers in that House, he would rest satisfied, that the House had three hostages in his Majesty's Cabinet, as sureties that the cursed American war would never be revived.

Mr Eden agreed with Governor Johnstone, that the act of Parliament alluded to had not given the Crown any power to recognise the independence.

Mr Wrexall said Ministers were deluded by France; that she did not think seriously of peace, as would appear from the unreasonable concessions, or rather cessions that she demanded from this country: It was not known to the House, though he had good authority to say it was true, that in India the French had demanded almost the only remaining jewel of the Crown, and which at present was the only possession we had that could support the idea of the British Empire—the invaluable Northern Circars to be for ever ceded to them. Such a cession would be the ruin of our power in that part of the world, and leave India to the mercy of France. The French Minister, he was convinced, were only deceiving our Cabinet with the idea of peace, while in reality they were thinking of nothing but

war. Did the House, that within these twelve days, Monsieur de Barras had sailed from Brest with 12 sail of the line and 64 transports full cooped for Cadiz, where Count de Estaing was waiting him? 18 sail of the line? These, when joined by the 12 under the Marquis de Vaudreuil, and the Spanish squadron under Donlano, would form a fleet of 54 or 56 sail of the line. [The House laughed at the facility with which Mr Wrexall had laid all these junctions, as if the British fleet in the West-Indies was to look idly on.] It was therefore, his opinion, they should not think of peace with the House of Bourbon till she had effectually crushed her naval power; and he wished the speaker to be suffered to leave the chair, that the supply of foam may be voted.

Mr Courtenay ridiculed the Earl of Shelburne for creating Division, by way of producing unanimity; by making one part of the House think that the independence of America was irrevocably granted, he was sure of the support of the late opposition; while, on the other hand, by explaining away the independence in another place, and announcing it to be conditional and revocable, he was sure of the support of all the friends to American subjection; thus he made persons, the most opposite in principles, unite most cordially to support his administration. The noble Earl had taken to the Cabinet a most popular and able young man, the son of the greatest Minister this country had ever produced: this respectable personage, though green in years, had talents that would to honour to the oldest Statesman: It was a wise act of the noble Earl to place such a character in the Cabinet; and he had no doubt but he had taken the hint from one of Dr Priestley's experiments in natural philosophy, who had discovered, that when air was foul and corrupted, the introduction of some vegetable would so purify it, in common air. His Lordship would burn three times longer than analogy from this experiment, that the introduction of the right hon. Member into the Cabinet would make his administration last three times longer than it otherwise could.

The question for the Speaker's leaving the chair being now put, it was carried; and the House having resolved itself into a committee,

Mr Brett just stated, that the number of ships of the line actually in commission, amounted to 105; and that the seamen born and mustered during the present year had exceeded by some thousands, the 100,000 voted by Parliament; he would therefore move, he said, this year for 110,000 seamen (including marines) for the service of the year 1783; and that 41. per man, per month, be granted to defray the expence attending the same.—This motion having been made, the debate upon the provisional treaty, and Mr Secretary Townshend's letter was again renewed by Mr Fox.

Captain John Luttrell stated the condition of the navy to be such as to force the enemies of this country into a disposition to treat upon reasonable and honourable terms; and he maintained that the late Admiralty had left it in that condition. In India, the honour of the flag had been nobly maintained by Sir Edward Hughes; and in the West Indies, Lord Rodney had given the French so decisive an overthrow, that the 12th of April might be said to have seen the sun of France set—her sun of pretension to the dominion of the sea! In Europe, a noble and well-appointed fleet, under that great and renowned officer, Lord Howe, had covered the British flag with glory:—He did not wish to revive divisions in the fleet; or he could oppose the private information he had received to the ex parte information which an Hon. member (Governor Johnstone) had communicated to the house. As to the Royal George, whose melancholy fate had been mentioned the first day of the session, he would not admit it as a proof of the bad new Admiralty.

He concluded by lamenting, that out of seven Lords of the present Admiralty, there were only two who were seamen; one of these was absent in the service of his country, and the other too frequently unable from the infirmities of nature to attend the Board; so that in fact the office of Lord High Admiral was often executed by the Hon. Member (Mr Brett;) the only office perhaps the Hon. Gentleman was not qualified for.

Lord North thought the more uncertain it was whether we should have peace or war, the more necessary it would be to vote a formidable fleet. As to the provisional treaty, he was rather inclined to think that the noble Lord, in another House, had given it the true interpretation: By this he meant no disparagement to the Ministers in this House: They interpreted the treaty, he made no doubt, according to the sense which in their judgment it bore. If they were right in their interpretation, he could see no harm from laying it upon the table; for, if the independence of America was finally and irrevocably granted, no injury could arise from the publication of it; but he suspected, and indeed wished, that the independence was not irrevocably recognised, as he could see no reason for a provisional treaty in such a case. It would be better, therefore, in his opinion, to declare America independent at once, and have done with her, than to make her independence contingent upon another event, and thus have her still upon our hands as an enemy. As to the letter sent to the Lord Mayor, he highly approved of it: It was calculated to put people on their guard; and in possession of such intelligence as would enable them to meet upon equal terms, those who might dupe the unwary and uninformed. He presumed the Ministers, since the date of this letter, had met with a Rub in their negotiation. [Here was a cry of No, No, from the Treasury Bench.] But Lord North adhered to his opinion: He said, he understood that a categorical answer had been demanded from France, and that they had fully expected, that by the 5th of this month, they would have had the Yes or the No of France; the 11th of the month was come; but neither the Yes or the No of France had yet been announced: Hence he had a right to conclude that Ministers had met with a Rub.—His Lordship, advertising then to the navy, said, that last year the old Admiralty had reckoned 92 ships of the line actually in commission, and promised to have as many more ready by this time as would carry the number up to 110; and from the various returns from the dock-yards, he had every reason to believe they would have made good their promises; but the present Admiralty, notwithstanding all their boasted dispatch, had no more than 105 in commission, including prizes taken from the enemy: As to the 110 ships, he could name them to the House, if it was thought necessary. To the motion before the Committee he gave his hearty assent, knowing that the best way for Ministers to make peace would be to treat with arms in our hands.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Commander in Chief, both spoke to their sense of the provisional treaty; and though

at bottom they seemed both to give it the same meaning; yet Mr Smith observed, that he saw with pain, something more than a shade of difference between them: The one said, that the Independence was irrevocably recognised; the other seemed to say, that it was contingent upon another event: This jarring of opinions, he said, boded no good; and he was afflicted to the soul at seeing it.

Sir Charles Turner said, the House were all talking about granting Independence to America; but he verily believed, that if a single American was sitting among them, he would make them all tremble. The ministers whom he had supported, and many of whom he respected and loved, were now divided in opinion.—What would Europe say to this? What would the court of France say to it? What would the court of Turin (where I was bred, said Sir Charles) say to it? Or the wife monarch who reigns in it?—He was himself for recognising the Independence, and for carrying on the war with spirit against the house of Bourbon, if they should be unreasonable in their demands; and even against independent America, if she should carry on hostilities as the ally of France.

Sir W. Dolben said, that having, in conjunction with the late Attorney-General, brought in the bill, under which Ministers thought themselves authorised to grant independence to America, he had it not in his mind at the time to vest any such power in the Crown: But at present it was a measure to which he had no longer so strong an objection, as he still hoped for great advantage from a federal union with America.

Mr Sheridan, Lord Surrey, and Mr Hopkins spoke, after which the motion was carried without opposition; and the House adjourned.

We have the fullest assurance that his Majesty's Ministers have given a direct answer to the Belligerent Powers, on the demand of the cession of Gibraltar. They declare, that no circumstances into which this country can be brought will induce them to cede that important fortress.

This morning arrived at the General Post-Office a mail from Lisbon, which was brought over in his Majesty's packet-boat King George, Captain Wauchope, after a passage of 14 days.

This morning some dispatches were received from New York, which were brought over in the Surprise armed ship, Captain Clarkson, arrived at Plymouth.

Yesterday some dispatches were received from Africa, which bring an account of all the ships from London, Bristol, and Liverpool, which sailed in August last, being safe arrived on the coast, and were purchasing slaves for the West Indies.

It is reported that the Ministers propose to lay some matters relating to the negotiations of peace before the House of Commons to-morrow, but it is generally supposed they are not to extend farther than the provisional articles with America. Some say they won't be produced till next Thursday.

The Peggy, Cunningham, from Barbadoes, is arrived at Cork. We hear, she left the islands on the 30th of October, that, before she sailed, a considerable number of French ships and victualling ships were arrived at Martinico, from Brest and the Isle of Rhee, with about 3000 troops, under the command of a 64 gun ship, which brought the Marquis de Bouille to the government of Martinique. We are sorry to add, that there were no accounts at that time of the Ville de Paris, or the other missing ships belonging to the Jamaica fleet.

A French 64 gun ship, armed en Flute, with 250 soldiers on board, and laden with a considerable quantity of stores, is taken in the West Indies, by a frigate, said to be the Alfre.

The Directors of the East India Company resumed their deliberations this day, on the message from Government, and they are expected to sit again to-morrow.

Sir Henry Fletcher and the Deputy Chairman are ordered to attend the Privy Council to-morrow evening.

So very secret is the business transacted in Leadenhall Street, that only the private Secretary is admitted to the deliberations.

No Turkish divan can be held with greater secrecy than the Courts at the India House this week. The doors are locked, and the key laid on the table.

The convoy for the East Indies was appointed yesterday to sail the 20th instant, from Spithead.

Lord Howe certainly does not come to the head of the Admiralty at present, as it is resolved to preserve the controlling powers distinct from the executive in that department.

Yesterday, at Guildhall, No. 9133 (a prize of 20 l.) was the first drawn ticket, and, as such, entitled to 3000 l. more.

No. 31,635, 40,293, 5708, prizes of 100 l. And the following prizes of 50 l. each:

No. 1307, 17,416, 14,941, 35,771, 20,861, 10,098, 2479, 9449, 33,458, 7576, 31,368, 9721, 14,506, 9690.

This day, at Guildhall, No. 8841, 14,812, 1352, 22,102, 21,021 were drawn prizes of 50 l. each.

EDINBURGH.

[The London Post did not arrive this afternoon till five o'clock.]

Extract of a letter from London, December 12.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. The order of the day being read, General Skipton brought up some papers respecting India affairs, which brought on conversation of too little importance to take the place of business which succeeded.

IMPORTATION OF CORN.

Mr Alderman Newnham rose to make a motion, that the House would determine to resolve itself into a Committee next Monday, to consider an act made for the importation of corn from neutral ports.

Mr Sibthorpe rose to make an amendment. He thought it would be more proper to remove the time next Monday, and insert that of the twenty-fifth of January, as it was a business that required the consideration of Gentlemen who would not most probably, be present in Parliament before the holidays.

Sir Joseph Maubey spoke in favour of the amendment. He said, that he thought if the business was entered upon on Monday next, it was of that nature and importance as could not possibly be concluded, to afford that relief of the poor before the holidays would intervene, and then it might be delayed even a longer time than if it were from the first put off until the time mentioned by the former speaker.

Mr Dempster thought that no time should be lost for its consideration. The subject was of a nature that demanded the most early, mature, and ample deliberation. The distresses of the poor called for an immediate relief, particularly in that part of the kingdom of which he had the honour of being one of its representatives. The honourable Gentleman said, that the

scarcity of rendered the the kingdom Gentlemen he hoped to find a means of relieving some of the distresses of the poor.

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scarcity of the crops, overtaken by a hard and severe season, had rendered the state of grain so alarming throughout every part of the kingdom, as well as that to which the right honourable Gentlemen (Alderman Newnham) had alluded (London) that he hoped the House would not see it necessary to defer so pressing a measure, which called for the immediate interposition, to devise some adequate means for the relief of the great and alarming necessities of the poor and public in general.

Mr Byng said, that, in his opinion, he saw no reason why the consideration of the subject should even be deferred until Monday. Why was it deferred a day? He, therefore, hoped the House would not suffer the amendment to pass, should the honourable mover refuse to its being withdrawn.

"The question was now called for, when the amendment was put, and rejected. The original motion was then adopted. That the House should next Monday resolve itself into a Committee, to consider on an act on the importation of grain from neutral foreign ports."

N A V Y.

Mr Secretary Townshend then rose, and presented a motion, "That it be the opinion of the Committee, that 110,000 seamen be employed in the naval service the ensuing year; and that 4l. 10s. per month be the expences of each seaman to Government."

Sir Edward Ashley arose, and reprobated the practice and law of pressing in very severe, humane, and pathetic terms. He gave instances of its being the most cruel and arbitrary proceeding that could possibly disgrace a country who had made such frequent boasts of its liberty.

Mr Brett said a few words in reply.

Mr Huxley begged leave to make an observation or two before the motion passed. He said, that if war was to be continued, as indeed from what he had heard fall in the House yesterday, he had no great hopes of peace, he would say, as he had formerly said, and expressly so in the commencement of the last session, that 110,000 seamen would not be sufficient in the present mode of allotting them, and disposing of them in the service. But what he had particularly to observe was, that from the very respectable and most indisputable intelligence he had received from a certain gentleman, who was then one of the highest in his profession, whom he should name, should the House see it necessary, he learned, that the present number of seamen you have now in your fleets, properly proportioned with landmen, would be more than sufficient to man half as many more; aye, twice the number of ships with effect, you have now in commission. He had further to observe, that he was sorry to hear a future loan was announced in the speech; for if peace was to be concluded, he thought a future loan would be unnecessary; but if it was to be continued, he could have wished some other mode or substitute could be devised; for he thought loans were, and had been, the destruction of the nation.

"The Chancellor of the Exchequer arose, and said, that he thought even if a peace was to be concluded, that there would be certain arrears and contingent expences be incurred, which would require a loan, or something very much resembling its nature."

"The question was now read and carried."

THANKS TO GENERAL ELLIOTT.

General Conway arose, and said, that he never rose with less difficulty, or with more pleasure, than he did on the present day, and on the present business, which he had the honour of proposing to the House. It was such, because he was assured it would meet with the unanimous concurrence all that were present. Although his Majesty had given his gracious and liberal thanks to General Elliott in his speech, yet he thought there was something still wanting, to express the high sense the nation, in general, had of his important services, which he had rendered his country, in the gallant and brilliant defence which he had made at Gibraltar. The Right Hon. General bestowed the most liberal eulogium on the Governor's conduct and character, and then moved the House, "That an address of thanks be presented to General Elliott, for his important defence at Gibraltar."

Lord Mulgrave arose to second the motion, saying, that he was happy to hear the Right Honourable Gentleman who had moved this motion with so much honour to himself, had never risen before on any day, or on any occasion, with less difficulty than on the present. But he must confess, for his own part, that he never rose with more difficulty; and this difficulty arose from his incapacity to pay the object of the address those tributes of praise, gratitude, and admiration, of which he had been a witness were so justly his due. Never did he see or hear of such unwearied attention, such ardent application, such constant vigilance, and, above all, such, even if he might be allowed the expression, a humanity more than human. It was a compassion scarcely to be expected from mortality. Although the place had been thought impregnable, yet the Noble Member considered, that it was owing to the unexampled conduct and intrepidity of the gallant Governor. He would venture to say, that it would not have been impregnable had the Governor been otherwise than his country had found him. Indeed, his idea of his character was such, that he thought no age, nor any annals, either naval or military, could prove his equal in so many wonderful particulars; particulars that even though they might be separately found in different men, he was assured, in his own mind, were only to be found in General Elliott. Men of noble ardour, grand views, and a sublimity of enterprise, were seldom seen to be able to bend their elevated nature so low as to attend to those minutiae, which were conspicuous in the conduct of the Governor. And, indeed, he thought his minute attentions were as indispensable to the salvation of the fortress as the most animated exertions with which he had repelled so successfully, and so honourably to his country, the combined forces of the enemy.

Sir George Howard arose, and so far approved of the motion, that he thought it was not adequate to the merit of the gallant defender. He moved therefore, that instead of "Gibraltar," might be inserted, "in the defence of the most important and valuable fortresses of our foreign possessions."

Mr Fox seconded this motion very warmly. He said, that the motion must be incomplete, unless the importance of the service was particularly specified.

Mr Onslow said, that he had been there in a military capacity six years, from which he could say, from experience, that Gibraltar, so far from being the most important, he considered it a millstone about the neck of Britain. It was of no service to our trade. The Dutch, Danes, and Swedes, had a greater commerce in the Mediterranean without Gibraltar than we had, who made such a boast of its possession. He should therefore oppose the amendment, as totally improper.

Sir Adam Ferguson spoke against the amendment. He

thought the more simple was worded the address of thanks, the more respect it would convey to its object. He very aptly quoted an instance of the epitaph which the Greeks made on the death of Leonidas and his gallant men, who fell at the Straights of Thermopylae: "Go, Reader, and tell the Lacedaemonians, that we fell in defence of our country!"

Mr Denham rose and complimented highly the conduct of the refugee Minister; and then proposed as the means of accommodating the present subject of debate, to the satisfaction of both parties, "That as it appeared disagreeable to certain gentlemen, that Gibraltar should be represented in the address of thanks as the most important fortress of our foreign possession, and others desired it might be humbly proposed for their consideration, for the Hon. Gentleman who moved the amendment, to add to the words most important, 'one of the most important.'" This, he humbly conceived, would be reconciling the matter in dispute to the satisfaction of every gentleman.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made then some remarks of warmth and resentment on some expressions that he considered were levelled personally at his conduct, spoken by Mr Fox and Mr Burke.

Mr Fox then arose, and said, that since he found the amendment had been so warmly opposed by gentlemen in administration, he should consider there was some meaning of importance in it that did not appear to the House. He was, therefore, now more desirous of the motion being carried for the amendment as it was originally proposed. For, in his opinion, he thought Gibraltar in itself invaluable—and its salvation proportionably important.—This brought on an altercation between Messrs Pitt, Burke, Fox, General Conway, Mr Secretary Townshend, and others.

[Mr Courtney, Sir Joseph Mawbey, Sir Charles Turner, Lord Fielding, and others, spoke in the debate, which we are obliged to defer for want of room.]

Died at Stirling, on Saturday the 7th current, Convener John Forman, much regretted.

A Theatrical correspondent from Glasgow observes, A School for Wives is to be opened on Wednesday next in the Theatre there, which is to be conducted by a Maid of the Oaks. He hopes many Volunteers will attend the Ladies—as it is intended for the benefit of Mr Woods.

We have the pleasure to inform the Public, that the Dean of Guild of this city, in order to prevent any possibility of imposition in this time of scarcity, has resolved to examine and adjust all the weights used by the meal-sellers within the city and liberties; and that this day his Lordship, and the other members of Court, have begun their enquiry, and have already surveyed a considerable number of weights.

The Triton, Anderson, from Hull, and the Ferguson, Brown, of Leith, are both lost in the Baltic; the crew saved.

They write from Yarmouth, that the whole of the society's buffes are safe arrived at Southwold from the Shetland fishery, which has turned out very plentiful.

Extract of a letter from Cork, Dec. 2.

"The Moon, of and from Ostend, arrived this day, was yesterday boarded by a French lug-sail privateer, off Ballycotton island. The privateer immediately after went away to the eastward, in chase of a brig then in sight."

Extract of a letter from Dublin, Dec. 7.

"Yesterday, the Stag frigate, Captain Cooper, which was lately damaged in a violent storm at Holyhead, arrived in our bay under jury masts."

"It was yesterday reported, that a predatory descent had been made upon Jamaica, by a body of troops from Hispaniola, in the beginning of November; but by the gallantry of the militia, the retreat of the invaders had been not only prevented, but every one of them cut to pieces."

"They have it at the Castle, that the Irish Fencible Regiments will not be disbanded, notwithstanding the general peace, but are to remain in statu quo, as part of the 12,000 troops of Ireland."

To the Printer of the CALEDONIAN MERCURY.

S I R,

BY inserting the following in your useful and impartial paper, you will much oblige a constant reader and well-wisher.

PERUSING your paper lately, I observed a list of military promotions, which, I must acknowledge, truly astonished me. I am, Mr Printer, a man of no great share of erudition; but I know a little of the world, and of mankind; and, as far as my abilities capacitate me to judge, I should think that such a step will be attended with dangerous, not to say, fatal consequences, whether we consider it in one or more points of view.

The navy is allowed by all to be the bulwark and glory of the British nation, and upon it alone our very existence, as a commercial state, in a great measure, depends. Whatever, then, is injurious to the interests of it; whatever tends to diminish those who have the honour of serving on board our fleets, must be considered as detrimental to the nation at large. The present measure appears to me to have directly that tendency. What indignation must a seaman feel, when he reads such a list of military promotions, whilst he and his fellow-officers are overlooked with indifference, neglected and despised as useless to their country, and deserving nothing? How shamefully ungrateful is it, and impolitic likewise, to forget those who have bled in their country's service, and sacrificed their health and constitution to its cause, and at the same time insult them with such a string of military preferments! What must be the consequence of such a procedure? Is it not reasonably to be dreaded, that these disgusted and neglected Gentlemen, when a peace commences, will flock to America, France, and other countries, where they will be received with open arms, and where their bravery and professional skill will procure them every encouragement, rather than starve in their ungrateful country, upon the scanty subsistence of half pay of low rank? And, perhaps, we shall live to see the unhappy day, when these officers shall be fighting the battles of our enemies, whilst we are deploring our baseness and ingratitude.

I cannot conclude this rude hint without mentioning, that I should think it highly praise-worthy in our present rulers, to make some promotions also in the naval line, beginning with those senior officers who, after being worn out in the service of their country, and having been the instruments of advancing it to its former grandeur, are now rewarded with only a bare subsistence; at the same time, that every mark of attention ought to be paid to our seamen and carpenters, that desertion to our enemies may be, in some degree, prevented, who would give every encouragement to such useful characters.

Aberdeenshire, Dec. 12.

AMICUS

BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR AND DIRECTORS OF THE MUSICAL SOCIETY,

ORATORIO OF ACIS AND GALATEA,

Will be performed on Friday next the 20th inst. in St Cecilia's Hall. The members are desired to send for their tickets to the usual place on Thursday. Particular tickets being ordered for that night, each member will only be entitled to receive two. Such gentlemen as wish to be admitted, will put their names down in the list as usual.

SEALOCK SHIPPING.

ARRIVED.

- Dec. 11. Earl Caffles, Kennedy, from Dundee, with linens.
13. Peggy, Reid, from Montrose, with sail-cloth.
Lovely Janet, Sorely, from Alloa, with pease.
Glasgow, Shaw, from Bo-hess for Glasgow, with sundries.
Active, Jamieson, from ditto, with ditto.
14. William and Marys Jickling, from Wells, with grain.
Sisters, Malton, from Dantzick, with oak plank.

SAILED.

14. Marion, Hendrey, for Bo-hess, with alder.

LEITH SHIPPING.

ARRIVED.

- Dec. 12. Helen, Higgins, from Perth, with wheat and barley.
Peggy, Macculloch, from Borrowstounness, with coals.
13. Margaret and Janet, Sidland, from Dundee, with wheat.
Betty, Murray, from Alloa, with coals.
Speedwell, Reid, from Riga, with lintseed and alder.
Hobell, Drysdale, from Limekirk, with coals.
Betty, Henderson, from Borrowstounness, with ditto.
14. Mercury, Barr, from Berwick, with wheat.
16. Peggy, Black, from Dundee, with wheat and goods.
Jean, Sands, from Perth, with wheat and barley.
James and Anne, Murdoch, from Stromhaven, in ballast.

SAILED.

- Friendship, Milne, for Aberdeen, with goods.
Diligence, Shaw, for London, with coals.
Jameses, Sommerville, for Newcastle, with goods.

DANCING.

MR ALDRIDGE most respectfully begs leave to inform the Nobility and Gentry, that he intends opening his School the first week in January next, and hopes, by his assiduity and care, to merit their future favours.

The reason of Mr Aldridge's delaying to commence teaching till the above-mentioned time, is, that he has not yet been able to procure a proper room for the accommodation of his scholars.—He has now a view of engaging such a one, and the earliest notice possible will be given of its situation.

Mr Aldridge begs leave to add, that he has now adjusted his plan of business, so as to enable him to continue in Edinburgh as long as he has the honour of meeting with encouragement.

N. B. He is now ready to give private instructions to Ladies and Gentlemen, that please to honour him with their commands. Cards, in the mean time, addressed to Mr Aldridge at Prince's-street Coffee house, will be attended to.

BALL ROOM.

WILLIAM SCOTT Vintner, Advocate's Close, north side of the Luckenbooths Edinburgh, most respectfully offers his grateful thanks to his friends in particular, and the public in general, for the distinguished honour of their many past favours, and humbly informs them, that he has now fitted up, in the completest and most elegant manner, the BALL ROOM adjacent to his present tavern, fit to accommodate a large company.

Ever anxious to merit a share of the public favour, W. Scott determines to make no charge for the use of the Ball Room, fire, or illumination; and he humbly flatters himself, every article of entertainment will be found on trial equally cheap with any in town, and of the very best qualities.

He continues business in his tavern, Advocate's Close, as formerly, where, by unremitting assiduity, accompanied with a moderate charge, will endeavour to merit the continued countenance of his friends and the public.

N. B. Brown Soups of the richest quality, upon the most moderate terms, from nine to four.

RELIEF OF THE POOR.

Edin. Dec. 11. 1782.

THE Right Honourable the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh, having taken into their serious consideration, how necessary it is on account of the present scarcity to have a proper stock of Meal, that the same may be sold out to the industrious poor at a reduced price, had applied their attention for some time past in purchasing meal and oats for this purpose, and are resolved still to purchase meal and oats from foreign parts, for the supply of the Edinburgh Market, and relief of the poor;—but, as this intention cannot be carried into execution without the aid of a voluntary contribution, this is therefore to give notice to all such as are willing to promote this good design, that the Goldsmith's Hall will be opened on Monday next the 16th day of December current, at eleven o'clock forenoon, to receive such voluntary contributions for the purposes above mentioned; and will continue to be opened every day thereafter (Sunday excepted), from eleven o'clock forenoon to two afternoon, to Saturday the 28th day of December current, inclusive.

The purpose of this plan is of a twofold nature. It is the intention of the Lord Provost and Magistrates, when they shall be informed that there is a scanty supply of meal in the market of Edinburgh, to deliver out from the City's granaries such a quantity as may be necessary for the weekly demand, to be sold at the current price; and to furnish meal to the industrious working part of the inhabitants at such a reduced price, as can come within the compass of their labour. With this last view, the Magistrates have been at pains to procure lists, to be made up by the ministers and sessions of each parish in the city, of such poor families as, in their opinion, cannot subsist by their labour without some help. To such families a certain quantity of meal will be sold weekly at a reduced price, under the direction of a committee from the Council, and other societies within the city.

The Lord Provost and Magistrates are also resolved to put the law rigorously in execution against straggling vagrant poor; by which means, and by a similar degree of attention on the part of the Managers of the West Kirk and Canongate Poor-houses, it is to be hoped, that those who are really entitled to the city's charity will be properly provided, during this season of scarcity and high prices.

As the benefit to be derived from this scheme will greatly depend on its being speedily carried into execution, it is hoped those well disposed persons, who wish to encourage it, will send their contributions as early as possible.

TO BE SOLD.

At Mr SMITH'S Stables, Minc Court, New Town.

A Very handsome BAY MARE, about fourteen hands high, English breed, warranted sound; and well broke.

For further particulars enquire of Mr Smith, at No. 3. St Anne's-street.

EXCISE OFFICE, EDINBURGH, 16th December 1782.

By order of the Hon. the COMMISSIONERS OF EXCISE. ON Friday the 27th of December instant, at twelve o'clock noon, there will be exposed to sale, by public auction, in the Hall of the Excise Office in Edinburgh,

Several Parcels of Tea, Brandy, Rum, Geneva, Aquavite, and Hard Soap; three pieces of Painted Linen; with the Materials of a great number of Small Stills and Utensils for Distillation, lately condemned as forfeited before his Majesty's Justices for Peace.

The goods and conditions of sale to be seen at the Excise Office in Edinburgh, and part of the goods in the Excise Warehouse in Leith, on the day before, and morning of the day of sale.



For LONDON, THE LOVELY MARY,

WILLIAM BEATSON Master,
Now taking in goods in Leith harbour; will sail
30th December, with or without convoy.
The Master to be spoke with, at 7 o'clock hours,
in the Exchange Coffeehouse, or at house, head
of Queen-street, Leith.
N. B. The above ship has good accommoda-
tion for passengers, and the best usage may
be depended on.

A PARCEL OF

Peterburgh clean Hemp, Twelve-head and
Codilla Flax, and fine Lithuanian Flax, all of the best kinds,
to be SOLD at the warehouse of Messrs. Adolphus and Andrew Scales, Links
of Leith. Not to be repeated.

Exchequer Chambers, Edinburgh,

11th December 1782.

ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN of Leny, and **ISOBEL WARD** in
Mentry, having applied to the Barons of Exchequer for a
Gift of Ballardy of the Estate and Effects of the deceased **JOHN KIDSTON**,
late resident at Mentry, in the county of Clackmannan,—the Barons
are pleased to order this intimation to be made for the information of
all concerned.

ROAD across the NORTH LOCH.

AS a communication between the Old and New Town, across the
North Loch, from the Lawn-market to Priore's Street, will be of
great utility to the inhabitants of both,—that it might be immediately
put in execution, a number of Heritors and Citizens met some time ago,
and appointed a committee to wait on the Town-council with a peti-
tion, praying that they would take out the ground which to them
should appear most proper for that purpose. The Lord Provost, and
other members of the Town-council, having taken it under considera-
tion, that from the Bakers Close, middle of the Lawn-market, a large
opening may be obtained to the road now formed across the loch, they
ordered all the earth and rubbish of both towns to be carried to it, and
no other place; but as they will be at great expence in building a large
drain or common sewer at both sides to receive the water, and having
many other necessary public works to execute, it was proposed to begin
part of this moat of earth by subscription; and, from the small sums
already collected, it is so far carried on as to make an easy foot-passage:
But as it will require a considerable sum to carry on the work, and
make proper communications from the street to the road across the loch,
as a numerous meeting of Citizens in Goldsmith's Hall, December 5, it
was agreed to open subscription-papers to all the different societies and
inhabitants in the Old and New Town for a voluntary contribution;
and if it is considered, that it will employ a number of poor labourers,
who are out of work in this time of dearth, those who are pleased to
subscribe will not only forward this useful undertaking, but will do an
act of charity and benevolence to the poor and industrious. For which
purpose, the above meeting of Citizens appointed a committee of their
number to oversee and carry on the said work, and to receive subscrip-
tions; and made choice of Mr Thomas Tod merchant, Castlehill, to be
their prices, and Mr James Brown merchant, at the proposed opening
to the Bridge, Lawn-market, treasurer and clerk, whose books and in-
truments are to be under the inspection of a general meeting.

THE Committee appointed by the Meeting
of Coal owners, and others, held the 11th February last, here-
by request another general meeting, by themselves, or doers of those in-
terested in the shipping or large consumption of coals on the Frith of
Forth; and of such Noblemen, Gentlemen, and others, particularly
upon the Solway and lower parts of the Frith of Clyde, as consider
themselves aggrieved by the duties and high rates of customhouse-fees levied
on coals.

A report of the agent sent to London last year upon this business,
will be laid before them. Much pains were taken therein, though, from
the great fluctuation in public affairs last season, redress could not then
be procured; but there is great reason to expect, that by a steady and
vigorous exertion, it may be fully obtained, in regard to our friths and
rivers, in the next session of Parliament.

The evils complained of bear extremely hard on our manufactures,
and the poor and middling ranks of people in a great part of Scotland.
An application for obtaining a redress of them was much approved of
by a general meeting of delegates from all our different counties held in
February last about the distilleries, as appears by their printed minutes;
and the affair highly merits the attention of other noblemen and gen-
tlemen, lovers of their country, though, from their inland local situation,
they may not be immediately or personally interested.

The meeting to be held in the house of Thomas Purvis vintner in
the New Assembly Close, on Friday the 20th of December, at twelve
o'clock noon.

TO BE SOLD by public roup, within John's coffeehouse, Edinburgh,
on Thursday the 19th day of December 1782, betwixt the hours
of four and six afternoon.

The following **SUBJECTS**, lying on both
sides of Cowan's Close, nearly opposite to the foot of Forrester's Wynd.

On the west side of the close,
A Laigh House possessed by John McIn-
toth, at the yearly rent of 3 0 0
Second Storey by William Brown, 3 0 0
Third Storey by John Dryburgh, 3 0 0
9 0 0

On the east side of the close,
A Laigh Storey on one end, possessed by
David McNair, 3 7 0
A House above and below on the other
end, possessed by Widow Finlay, 2 10 0
A House on the second storey, possessed by
John Grice, 3 7 0
A House on the third storey, possessed by
Alexander Orrick, 3 3 0
6 7 0

Adjoining to the said East Building, there are four cellars, and posses-
sed as follows:
James Inglis, one cellar, 3 0 0
Ditto, 0 15 0
3 15 0

Christie, a ditto, 0 15 0
David Wills, a ditto, 0 15 0
3 15 0

The articles of roup, and progress of writs of said subjects, are to be
seen in the hands of William Young writer, at his house in Dunbar's
Close, Lawn Market, Edinburgh.
Not to be repeated.

SALE OF LANDS.

TO BE SOLD, within the house of James Wyse, vintner in Falkirk,
upon Thursday the 30th of January next.

All and Whole these Grounds which belonged to the de-
ceased Robert Mackell engineer, called **GUILDFIELD**, lying imme-
diately on the west side of the town of Larbert, in that parish, and shire
of Stirling, presently in the possession of Carron Company.

These Lands are set to the said Company for the space of two hun-
dred years from the term of Martinmas 1760, in virtue of a tack, on
which account a great part of them is laid under water, making part
of the Company's Reservoir. But the said Company are taken bound
in the tack, at the expiry thereof, to leave the grounds in as good condi-
tion, and in the same manner, as at their entry; and they pay yearly
therefore 30 l. Sterling, over and above all public burdens.

Any person inclining to make a private bargain betwixt and the day of
sale, may apply to John Johnston writer in Falkirk, in whose hands the
progress of writs and articles of roup are to be seen.

TO BE SOLD by public roup, on Friday the 27th instant, at Mrs
Ritchie's on the shore of Leith, between the hours of one and
two in the afternoon.



THE SLOOP EXPERIMENT,
burden about thirty-eight tons, built at Car-
ron last summer, of the best materials. As
the vessel sails and works uncommonly well,
she is very fit for the trade between Berwick
or Perth and London, or any other employ-
ment which particularly requires a quick sail-
ing vessel.

Any person wishing to purchase by a private bargain, or to see the
inventory, may apply to Captain Robert Mudie in the Kirk-gate,
Leith.

SALE OF HOUSES IN EDINBURGH.

TO BE SOLD by roup, within the Exchange Coffeehouse in Edin-
burgh upon Friday the 20th of December 1782, betwixt the hours
of five and six afternoon.

III. A HOUSE in the Old Bank Close, Edinburgh, possessed by Sir
James Campbell, consisting of seven rooms, closets, kitchen, and cellars;
insured in the Edinburgh Friendly Insurance at 4000 l. Scots, or
333 l. 6 s. 8 d. Sterling, and the premium paid up. The upset price
350 l.

II. A HOUSE fronting the High Street, at the head of Morison's
close, being the fifth Storey of Syme's Land, consisting of two rooms,
bed closets, and kitchen; insured in the Edinburgh Friendly Insurance,
at 1200 l. Scots, or 107 l. 10 s. Sterling, and the premium paid up. The
upset price 90 l.

III. A HOUSE, being the second storey of the new land at the head
of Cant's close, consisting of a handsome dining-room to the street, three
bed-rooms, and kitchen, with a cellar, entering from the close, possessed
by Mr Bow merchant. Upset price 160 l.

For particulars, apply to Robert Stewart writer, Edinburgh, who
will show the title-deeds and articles of roup.

HOUSES AND BAKEHOUSE,

IN EDINBURGH AND PLEASANCE, TO SELL.

TO BE SOLD by public roup, within the Exchange coffeehouse, E-
dinburgh, on Thursday the 23d day of January 1783, at five
o'clock afternoon.

I. That **LODGING** or **DWELLING-HOUSE**, being the fourth storey
of that large tenement at the head of Libberton's Wynd, fronting the
High-street, presently possessed by the Misses Prellan, with the
Garrets belonging thereto. The house consists of four rooms, two closets,
(one of which contains a bed,) kitchen, larder, and other conveni-
encies; and the rent of it, when lately let, was 18 l. The garret
consists of three apartments, and rents at 5 l.

II. A **DWELLING-HOUSE**, being the second storey of that tenement
near the foot of the Pleasance, consisting of three rooms, kitchen,
and closets, possessed by Robert Tait shoemaker, at 7 l. of rent; with
a garret room let at 1 l. 5 s. And,

III. The **RIGHT** and **BENEFIT** of a **TACK** of the first storey or
ground-floor of said last-mentioned tenement, of which there are forty-one
rooms to run from Whitunday last; and the yearly rent payable by
it being 6 l. 10 s. This house consists of one room and kitchen, a baking
house, oven, and shop; and is presently possessed by Richard Robertson.
Rent 10 l. The surplus rent is thus 3 l. 10 s.

The two last lots will be sold together or separately.
The premises will be shown by the present possessors every lawful
day, from twelve to three o'clock.

The progress of writs, and conditions of sale, may be seen in the
hands of James Thomson writer to the signet, Hanover-street; to whom
those inclining to purchase by private bargain may apply.

HOUSES TO SELL.

TO BE SOLD by public roup, within John's coffeehouse, Edinburgh,
on Wednesday the 13th day of January next, betwixt the hours
of five and seven afternoon.

For the encouragement of purchasers, and to insure a roup, the up-
set sums are put down much below the value.

The following **GREAT TENEMENT** of **LAND**, called **CAMP-
BELL'S LAND**, lying in the Canongate of Edinburgh, upon the north
side of the High Street, opposite to Lady Milton's lodging, in the fol-
lowing lots, all well lighted.

I. The Ground Storey, consisting of a large parlour, another ditto or
bed-room, with bed-closet, servants-room, common cellar, two wine
cellars with catacombs, laundry and coal cellar within the house; the
two last with separate entries.

The Storey above, communicating by a stair from within, consists of six
handsome rooms, kitchen, and servants rooms, closets, larder and pantry,
all which were some time possessed by the late Robert Gardiner, Esq;
the proprietor, afterwards by Sir James Riddell, and now by Doctor
Christie. Upset price 400 l. Sterling.

II. The Second Storey of the said tenement, presently possessed by
Mrs Murray, and insured in the Friendly Insurance Office, and premium
paid up, consisting of five genteel rooms, kitchen, servants rooms, and
cellar. Upset price 250 l. Sterling.

III. The Third Storey of the said tenement, lately possessed by Mr
Newton, consisting of four genteel rooms, closets, kitchen, and cellars.
Upset price 150 l. Sterling.

IV. The Fourth, or Uppermost Storey, presently possessed by Mr
Paterfon advocate, consisting of six genteel rooms, closets, kitchen,
garret, and cellar. Upset price 150 l. Sterling.

There are in the close two stables, with four stalls each; hay-lofts,
and two coach-houses: another stable with three stalls and hay-loft; al-
so another stable for six stalls and hay-loft, which will be sold separately
or with the lodgings. The upset prices will be very moderate.

As also the following other **SUBJECTS**, lying in the burgh of Lin-
lithgow, opposite to the cross, and where there are good markets, viz.

I. That large, elegant, and commodious Lodging, with the offices
and gardens, now converted into pleasure ground, and sloping banks
and walks, some time possessed by James Glen, Esq; of Longcroft, con-
sisting of the following conveniences, viz.

First Floor, kitchen, scullery, pantry, and servants rooms, or lobby,
with a fire place; parlour with a large press in it, laundry, and cellar.

Second Floor, large lobby, dining room about 31 feet long and about
21 feet broad, and 15 feet high, elegantly finished, with a large bow
window in the west end of it, and above the same two bed rooms and a
closet. These command an agreeable view of the loch and country to
the west and north; and on the same floor with the dining-room, a
drawing-room and a bed-room, (each with large presses) and a dressing
closet with a fire place.

Third Floor, two bed-rooms, a dressing closet with a fire place, two
rooms for servants; and above the same other two rooms and closets.

The above Subjects are pleasantly and delightfully situated, having
easy communication with the Loch, Piel, and royal palace of Linlithgow;
are within twelve miles of the city of Edinburgh, by a good turnpike
road, and fit to accommodate a large and genteel family. Upset price,
L. 400 Sterling.

II. That **TENEMENT** lying in the said burgh of Linlithgow, at a
small distance from the said great lodging, with the stables, cellar, and
garden, as presently possessed by John Inglis, officer of excise, and Thomas
Currie, vintner, excepting the undermost half of the said garden, a
little stable, and a space of ground for a middle-head thereto, already
sold. Upset price L. 163 Sterling.

The progress of writs and conditions of roup may be seen in the hands
of Allan Clarke, writer to the signet, to whom, or to Thomas Cock-
burne, writer to the signet, any person inclining to purchase may apply.

And such of the creditors of Humphrey Bland Gairdner, as have not
yet lodged notes of their claims, and of the vouchers thereof, and oaths
of verity thereon, with the said Thomas Cockburne, or Allan Clarke, are
requested to do the same without delay.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE BARGAIN,

A SHIP now on the Stocks at Dy-

fart, about 200 tons carpenter's measurement, and will
be ready to launch about the first of January next.
For particulars apply to Duncan Clark and Compa-
ny, Edinburgh. Captain William Robertson at Dyfart
will show the vessel to any person inclining to pur-
chase.

SALE OF LANDS IN KINROSS-SHIRE.

TO BE SOLD by public roup, upon Thursday the 30th of January
next, within the house of James Beveridge vintner in Kinross,
between the hours of twelve and two afternoon.

The Lands of **WESTER BALLADO**, with a fourth part of the
Lands of **EASTER BALLADO**, lying in the parish and shire of Kin-
ross, in whole, or in the following lots, viz.

Lot	Acres.	Parts.	Total.
Lot I. Eastertown,	Crofting, 22	500	
	Outfields, 79	750	
Lot II. East Lot of Wester Ballado,	Crofting, 50	68	102 250
	Outfields, 115	430	
Lot III. West Lot of Wester Ballado,	Crofting, 90	180	165 498
	Outfields, 143	441	
			233 621
			501 369

These lands lie within a mile of the thriving town of Kinross, on the
great post-road to Perth; the most part of which are of a fine rich qua-
lity, and from their vicinity to coal and lime, and being central to se-
veral good market-towns, are capable of great improvement.

For further particulars, apply to John Graine writer to the signet,
George Stewart younger of Argaty, or James Balfour accountant in E-
dinburgh.

TO BE SOLD by public roup in the Exchange coffeehouse, Glasgow,
on Wednesday the 18th December next, between the hours of
twelve and two mid-day.

**THE LANDS OF DALMARNOCK, NEW-
LANDS, KINNYHILL, and BURNBANK**, lying in the neighbour-
hood of Glasgow, either in whole or in such lots as shall be conde-
fended upon at the roup, all lately pertaining to Mr Gray of Dal-
marnock; and, if not then sold, these parts which are not in tack, will
be let for the ensuing crop.

For further particulars apply to Gilbert Hamilton merchant in Glas-
gow, or Patrick Robertson writer there.

The Creditors of the said Mr Gray are hereby required to lodge with
Mr Hamilton the trustee, their grounds of debt, with affidavits to the
verity thereof; and all persons indebted for coals, are entreated imme-
diately to pay the same to the trustee, or Mr Robert Gray, who has
power to discharge the same.

Orders for coals given in at Mr Hamilton's waiting-room, Queen-
street, will be punctually executed.

BY ADJOURNMENT.—UPSET PRICE REDUCED.

SALE OF LANDS in the Shire of Renfrew.

THERE is to be SOLD, by public roup, within the Exchange Cof-
fee-house, in Edinburgh, upon Friday the 20th December 1782,
betwixt the hours of five and six afternoon.

ALL and WHOLE the Lands of **EASTER WALKINSHAW**, with
the houses and pertinents lying within the parish and shire of Renfrew,
as the same are possessed by James Storie. These Lands are at present
out of lease, have not been raised in the rents for twenty-three years
past, and hold blench of a subject superior. They lie in the neigh-
bourhood of the thriving town of Paisley, are well adapted, for situa-
tions, for houses to carry on manufactures, and being adjacent to the
water of Gryffe, a bleachfield may be erected on the lands to great ad-
vantage. For the encouragement of purchasers, the upset-price will be
reduced to 1800 l. Sterling, being twenty-two and a half years purchase
of the rent that has been offered by a good tenant for a lease.

The conditions of roup and title-deeds of the lands are in the hands
of Samuel Mitchelson jun. clerk to the signet; to whom, or to William
Keith accountant in Edinburgh, or Charles Maxwell merchant in Pais-
ley, enquiry may be made as to further particulars.

These Lands will be likewise sold by private bargain, at any time be-
twixt and the day of sale, if a reasonable price is offered.

CASTLESTEWART ESTATE.

TO BE SOLD.

BY public roup or auction, within the Exchange Coffeehouse, Edin-
burgh, on Tuesday the 18th day of February 1783, at five o'clock
afternoon.

LOT I.—The Lands and Barony of **RAVENSTOUN**, now called
CASTLESTEWART, and the Eight Merk Land of **DAVALTOUN**,
lying in the parishes of Glasserton and Sorby, and county of Wigton,
consisting of 2648 acres or thereby, and paying 1047 l. Sterling of yearly
rent, which rises, during the currency of the present leases, to above
1060 l. To be exposed to sale, for the encouragement of purchasers, at
27,000 l. Sterling.

On this estate, which is all substantially inclosed and subdivided, there
is a large commodious modern mansion-house, with suitable offices, all
in good repair; also fine gardens, and an extensive policy, laid out in
the best taste, with a great deal of young planting, very thriving.

This estate is capable of great improvement, having plenty of marle
upon it. About 500 acres lying round the mansion-house are presently
out of lease. The estate holds of the Crown, and affords no less than
eight clear qualifications (on the old extent) for electing a member in
parliament, and the tithes are valued.

LOT II.—The Land and Barony of **DUCHRAE**, lying in the parishes
of Balmaghie and stewartry of Kirkcudbright, consisting of 2430 acres
or thereby, and paying 416 l. of yearly rent. To be exposed to sale at
10,200 l. Sterl. or in the following lots, at the prices after mentioned, viz.

LOT 1. The Mains of Duchrae, and the Lands of Ulloik and Meikle
and Little Craigs, about 773 acres, as presently possessed by Samuel
and David McClellan, at 135 l. 2 s. Sterling. To be exposed at 3200 l. Sterling.

LOT 2. Drumglass, Torneroch, and Meikle and Little Duchraes,
about 884 acres, as presently possessed by James McClellan at 145 l.
Sterling. To be exposed at 3900 l. Sterling.

LOT 3. Urloch, Clonie, and Mill of Duchrae, about 637 acres, as pre-
sently possessed by Andrew McMein at 108 l. 19 s. 2 d. To be exposed
at 2600 l. Sterling.

And lastly, Drumbreck, about 137 acres, as presently possessed by
William McKenzie at 20 l. 9 s. 10 d. To be exposed at 500 l. Sterling.

The barony of Duchrae holds of the Crown, and stands rated in the
cess-books at 925 l. 6 s. 8 d. Scots. It lies on the river Dee, by which,
and a canal from the loch of Carlingwork, marle of the best quality for
improving the grounds is easily got at a cheap rate.

There is a wood on this estate, which, at last cutting in 1768, sold
for 4000 l. Sterling; and there is also another wood, presently fit for cut-
ting, worth about 100 l.

The tenants pay all the public and parish burdens over and above the
rents. The tithes are valued, and the purchaser will have a right to
them.

LOT III.—A **HOUSE** and **GARDEN** in the Town of Wigton, as
presently possessed by Mrs Isabel Stewart, at the rent of 5 l. Sterling.

LOT IV.—A **HOUSE** in the Town of Whithorn, as presently pos-
sessed by Mrs Muir, at the rent of 15 s. Sterling.

The title deeds, rentals, current leases, plans of the estates, and con-
ditions of sale, are to be seen in the hands of John Hunter writer to the
signet; to whom, or to Alexander Farquharson accountant in Edin-
burgh (who has power to conclude a private bargain), persons inclining
to purchase may apply; and Mr Samuel McCaul at Corby, near New-
town Stewart, will show the lands.